HEATHER-DINA LAKES PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

March 2003

Approved by:

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Date: March 18/03

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HEATHER-DINA LAKES PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Heather-Dina Lakes Provincial Park is located 25 km north of Mackenzie, on both sides of the Parsnip West Forest Service Road. The park has an area of 5,970 ha and is noted for a chain of small lakes which provide a regionally significant canoe circuit.

This newly designated park is located along the eastern edge of Williston Lake and consists of seven small lakes ranging in size from approximately 10 to 158 ha, named Dina #1 through Dina #7. Dina #4, #5 and #6 form part of the Heather Lake canoe chain. Visitors are able to camp, fish, canoe, hike and view wildlife within a beautiful wilderness setting. This area offers a circle canoe route for the Prince George region. Two primitive campground/day use areas are located at Heather Lake and Dina Lake respectively.

Primary Role
The park's primary role is to contribute to the representation of the Parsnip Trench Ecosection which is poorly represented (2.67%) within the protected areas system. The park currently provides the second greatest extent of representation of this ecosection, behind only Muscovite Lakes Park.

The park surrounds Heather Lake Ecological Reserve, which has representative trembling aspen stands and associated vegetation and fauna within the sub-boreal spruce zone.

Secondary Role
The park's secondary role is to provide a regional canoe circuit, as well as camping and fishing opportunities for local residents.

Known Management Issues	Response
Forest Health	Include Heather-Dina in the Mountain Pine Beetle Strategy to determine appropriate beetle management action.
Recreation Risk Assessment	Conduct risk assessment and develop a plan to minimize risks. Assess facilities and upgrade as required (Public Safety).
Commercial Use	Have all commercial uses under Park Use Permits
Fish Management	Maintenance of enhanced spawning channel. Research on pygmy whitefish. Continuation of stocking with specialty stocks.
ATV's	Considerable ATV use occurs in the park and adjacent ecological reserve, which will be difficult to control without a management presence. Monitor use and record impacts.

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Zoning

The park has been divided into 2 zones:
Intensive Recreation – approximately 34 hectares or 0.6% of the park – which surrounds the day-use sites on Heather and Dina lakes and provides access to readily accessible, facility-oriented recreation opportunities; and
Natural Environment – approximately 5,742 hectares or 99.4% of the park – which surrounds the remainder of the park and provides protection for the scenic values and provision of backcountry recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

CONSERVATION

Representation		
• ecosection	X	Parsnip Trench (PAT). Only 2.67% of this ecosection is protected; Heather-Dina provides the second best representation of this ecosection, contributing 42.09% of overall protected areas system representation. Northern Hart Ranges (NHR). 7.42% of this ecosection is protected, of which Heather-Dina Lakes contributes 3.15% of overall protected areas system representation.
• biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	X	SBSmk2 – 3.7% protected. Heather-Dina Lakes provides the second greatest extent of representation of this ecosystem, contributing 39.8% of overall protected areas system representation. SBSvk - 3.62% protected. Heather-Dina Lakes contributes 1.12% of overall protected areas system representation. SBSwk2 – 3.45% protected. Heather-Dina Lakes contributes 3.66% of overall protected areas system representation. ESSFwk2 – 10.86% protected. Heather-Dina Lakes contributes 0.45% % of overall protected areas system representation.
Special Feature		
Rare/Endangered Values		Unknown
Scientific/Research Opportunities	X	Potential for growth and yield study on aspen. Fisheries stocking; pygmy whitefish

RECREATION

Representation:		
• backcountry	X	Regionally significant canoe route.
• destination		
• travel corridor		
• local recreation	X	Provides fishing, camping and canoeing opportunities for the residents of Mackenzie.
Special Opportunities		
Education/Interpretation Opportunities		

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation		
Special Feature		

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations	X	Surrounds Heather Lake Ecological Reserve (stand of trembling aspen that exhibits excellent growth on a productive site)
Relationship to Other PAs	X	Patsuk Creek Ecological Reserve located to the north, and Blackwater Ecological Reserve across Williston. Whiskers Point, Tudyah, Bijoux, Pine LeMoray and Bocock Peak parks are within 75 km.
Co-operative Management Arrangements		
Partnerships		
Vulnerability	X	Considerable ATV use. The Conservation Risk Assessment Process identified 2 risk factors (the shape and the size of the park) for the park and rated them as moderately significant. Six stressors/threats were identified for the park: fire suppression and petrochemical spill/potential were rated as moderately significant; roadways, campground, sport fishing and boat/all types were all rated as low significance.
Relationship to Other Strategies	X	Established through the Mackenzie LRMP with strong support of local residents.

Area: 5,786 hectares

Date of establishment: April 11, 2001

Zoning Map - Heather Dina Lakes Provincial Park and Heather Lake Ecological Reserve

Projection: Albers Equal Area
Datum: NAD83

Intensive Recreation
Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

Produced in Mar 2003 for
Ministry of Water, Land and Air
Protection by MSRM, Decision
Support Services

This is a visual representation only and should not be used for legal purposes